

Homeless Subcommittee

Chair, Greg Sileo, Baltimore Homeless Services

WHO

The Homeless community consists of homeless families, men, women, and children. They have a lack of permanent housing resulting from extreme poverty, or, in the case of unaccompanied youth, the lack of a safe and stable living environment.

Baltimore Homeless Services conducts a homeless count every two years in Baltimore City per US HUD guidelines and has a list of providers that service homeless populations. During the last HUD-based count process in January 2009, the total homeless count was nearly **3400**. Table 1 shows the comparisons of data of the Homeless Census from 2003, 2005, and 2007. They may not have received an accurate count from some homeless shelters that do not receive direct funding from the government. Outreach to faith-based providers in particular will be critical to ensure a complete count for all service providers. However, the city has many people who are considered 'homeless' but live with relatives or friends and do not receive direct service at a shelter or in transition housing.

Table 1: Comparison of data from 2009, 2007, 2005, and 2003

Total Count	2003	2005	2007	2009
Number of Those Homeless In Shelters or Transitional Housing Programs	N/A	2943	3002	3419
Number Surveyed	N/A	2321	2236	2265
Demographics				
Male	N/A	902	497	226
Female	72%	78%	67%	65%
Had Children	28%	22%	23%	35%
Single	83%	71%	72%	23%
Married	66%	62%	62%	87%
Divorced	4%	5%	6%	3%
Last Permanent Address In Baltimore City	15%	17%	15%	16%
Race				
African-American	79%	75%	73%	79%
White	83%	72%	78%	80%
Age	13%	14%	17%	14%
19-35	N/A	16%	20%	19%
36-50	N/A	56%	56%	75%
>50	N/A	28%	24%	6%
Educational Level				
Less than HS	42%	40%	31%	26%
High School or GED	N/A	35%	46%	30%
Some College or More	N/A	25%	23%	15%
Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A	30%
Military Veteran	24%	30%	15%	19%
Length of Time Homeless				
<1 Year	48%	59%	46%	78%
1 to 2 years	29%	27%	29%	5%
>2	23%	15%	24%	6%
Unknown	N/A	N/A	N/A	12%
Primary Need				
Housing	63%	64%	67%	31%

HOW

The Homeless Subcommittee needs to effectively reach out to service providers that do and do not receive direct government funding. The overall homeless count for the City helps Baltimore as a whole receive adequate resources to address homelessness. The homeless, providers, shelters, soup kitchens, and all other organizations need to be aware that participating in the 2010 Census is part of the solution for ending homelessness in Baltimore City. Trained and educated staff also need to be provided important dates to provide service to people who do not know how to fill out the Bureau's form.

WHEN

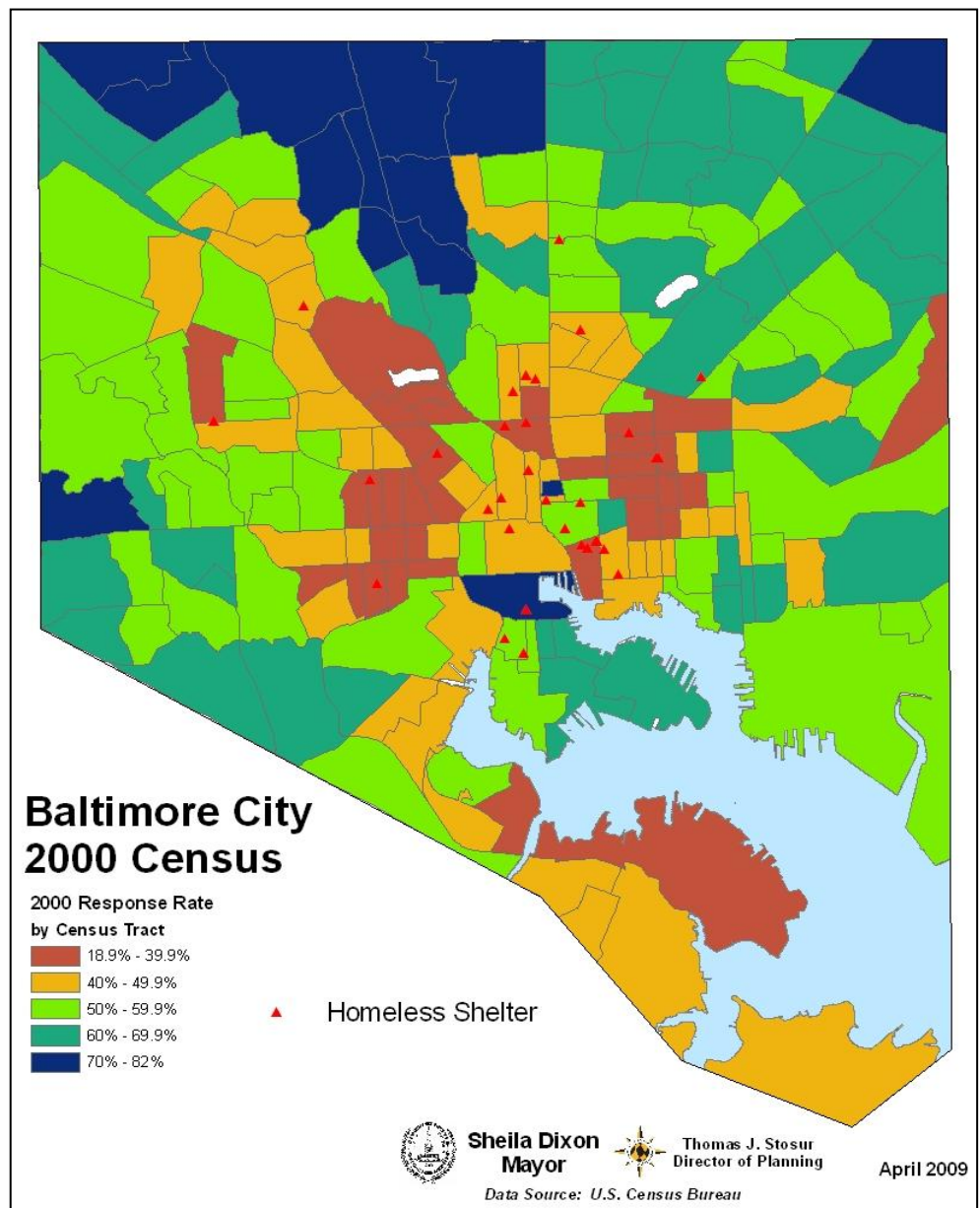
The Homeless Subcommittee has formulated a list of events that Census awareness should be promoted until April 1, 2010. The Subcommittee is also currently planning new events and meetings that will be turned into an interactive calendar.

- Homeless Memorial Day: December
- Providers' Meeting: January

WHERE

The Homeless Subcommittee has formulated a list of suggested Questionnaire Assistance Centers (QAC) and Be Counted Sites that the homeless are more likely to gather. The shelters in Figure 1 are also key targets. These locations are currently being contacted.

- Dept of Social Services: 1920 N. Broadway
- Beans and Bread
- Our Daily Bread
- My Sister's Place
- Manna House



- Drop-in/Day Resource Centers
- Community Action Centers
- Healthcare for the Homeless
- Helping Up Mission